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May 17, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/562,613 filed 12/22/05
Applicant: Forster et al.
Title: **INTERLOCKING FLOORBOARD TILE SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE**
Group Art Unit:
Attorney Docket No. 21216.PROV.PCT.US

Sir/Madam:

Transmitted herewith for filing and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 is an Information Disclosure Statement. Enclosed also are the following designated documents, as required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

- ☒ Form **PTO/SB/08A** list of 134 references submitted for consideration.
- ☐ Legible copies of the listed references or their relevant portions.
- ☐ Legible copies of the listed non-patent documents and foreign documents or their relevant portions are included.
- ☒ Copies of U.S. patents and/or publications are not included pursuant to the Official Gazette Notice, dated Aug. 5, 2003, waiving the requirement of 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(i).
- ☐ All English translations of each non-English reference, if any, within the possession, custody, control or availability of anyone designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c)).

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The following are included within the Information Disclosure Statement if applicable and as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98:

- ☐ Concise explanation of relevance of each reference not in English and unaccompanied by an English translation.
- ☐ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed are substantially cumulative of an enclosed reference.
- ☐ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in prior application no. _____, filed on _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

In order to secure consideration of the items designated above, one or more of the following, if required, is also enclosed:

- ☐ Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2).
- ☐ Check No. _____, which includes the amount of \$180.00 (amount in § 1.17(p)) constituting the submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

In the event that 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) applies and the Examiner is not satisfied that the Statement meets the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or in any other event remediable by a fee, please credit any over payment or charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0100 of the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher L. Johnson
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 46,809

THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP
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P.O. Box 1219
Sandy, Utah 84091-1219
Telephone: (801) 566-6633

PMD/CLJ/skp



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARKS OFFICE

EXAMINER:

APPLICANT: Forster et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/562,613

FILED: 12/22/2005

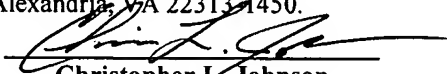
CONFRM. NO.:

FOR: INTERLOCKING FLOORBOARD TILE
SYSTEM AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

DATE OF DEPOSIT: 5/25/06

I hereby certify that this paper or fee (along with any paper or fee referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Christopher L. Johnson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form **PTO/SB/08A** and **PTO/SB/08B** which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). Applicant respectfully submits that this Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to:

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(1) or (3), within three months of the filing date of the application, or before a first office action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c), after a first office action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p); or

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (d), after a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by both 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the references listed, together with any other references which may have been previously submitted or listed, are the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently

aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

[Check first paragraph if the application was filed prior to June 30, 2003 and you're submitting copies of listed U.S. Patents and publications. Check second paragraph if you're submitting copies of non-patent documents and foreign patents. Check third paragraph if the application was filed after June 30, 2003 and you're NOT submitting copies of U.S. Patents and publications. Check fourth paragraph when the application is a CIP and you're NOT submitting copies of references. DELETE THESE INSTRUCTIONS]

☐ A legible copy of each listed U.S. Patent or publication (or relevant portion thereof) which was not previously submitted to, or cited by, the Patent Office is enclosed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

☐ A legible copy of each of the listed non-patent literature and foreign documents or their relevant portions is enclosed.

☒ Copies of cited U.S. patents and/or publications are NOT enclosed pursuant to the Official Gazette Notice, dated Aug. 5, 2003, waiving the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i).

☐ Copies of the references listed in the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A AND PTO/SB/08B are NOT enclosed because, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in application number _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

For all listed references that are not either in the English language, or accompanied by a translation into English, a concise explanation of relevance as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) is enclosed attached to each.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0100.

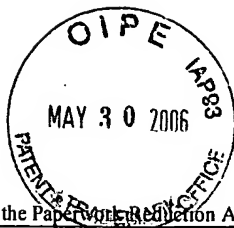
Dated this 25TH day of May, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher L. Johnson
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Registration No. 46,809

THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 6

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/562,613
Filing Date	12/22/05
First Named Inventor	Forster, Cheryl
Art Unit	3635
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	21216.PROV.PCT.US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US-D481,138	10/21/03	Forster et al.	
	2	US-1,472,956	11/06/23	Biegler	
	3	US-1,824,571	05/06/27	Richardson	
	4	US-2,225,828	12/24/40	Godschall	
	5	US-2,735,166	02/21/56	Hoseason	
	6	US-3,222,834	12/14/65	Taft	
	7	US-3,318,476	05/09/67	Clark	
	8	US-3,350,013	10/31/67	Bergquist	
	9	US-3,425,624	02/04/69	Jacobs	
	10	US-3,439,312	04/15/69	Greasley	
	11	US-3,565,276	02/23/71	O'Brien	
	12	US-3,723,233	03/27/73	Bourke	
	13	US-3,736,713	06/05/73	Flachbarth et al.	
	14	US-3,802,144	04/09/74	Spica	
	15	US-3,820,912	06/28/74	Hughes	
	16	US-3,836,075	09/17/74	Botbol	
	17	US-3,846,945	11/12/74	Roby	
	18	US-3,844,440	10/29/74	Hadfield et al.	
	19	US-3,909,996	10/07/75	Ettlinger, Jr. al.	
	20	US-3,911,635	10/14/75	Traupe	
	21	US-3,937,861	02/10/76	Zuckerman et al.	
	22	US-3,946,529	03/30/76	Chevaux	
	23	US-3,955,836	05/11/76	Traupe	
	24	US-4,008,352	02/15/77	Dawes et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.

Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known.	
		Application Number	10/562,613
		Filing Date	12/22/05
		First Named Inventor	Forster, Cheryl
		Art Unit	3635
Examiner Name			
Sheet 2 of 6	Attorney Docket Number	21216.PROV.PCT.US	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	24	US-4,008,548	02/22/77	Leclerc	
	25	US-4,167,599	09/11/79	Nissinen	
	26	US-4,226,064	10/07/80	Kraayenhof	
	27	US-4,244,484	01/13/81	Guritz et al.	
	28	US-4,285,518	08/25/81	Pearo	
	29	US-4,287,693	09/08/81	Collette	
	30	US-4,338,758	07/13/82	Hagbjer	
	31	US-4,289,798	09/15/81	Bagley et al.	
	32	US-4,361,614	11/30/82	Moffitt, Jr.	
	33	US-4,386,138	05/31/83	Arbit	
	34	US-4,419,382	12/06/83	Sliemers, et al.	
	35	US-4,424,968	01/10/84	Smith	
	36	US-4,436,779	03/13/84	Menconi et al.	
	37	US-4,465,715	08/14/84	Manabe et al.	
	38	US-4,468,910	09/04/84	Morrison	
	39	US-4,478,901	10/23/84	Dickens et al.	
	40	US-4,497,858	02/05/85	Dupont et al.	
	41	US-4,559,250	12/17/85	Paige	
	42	US-4,584,221	04/22/86	Kung	
	43	US-4,596,731	06/24/86	Cudmore et al.	
	44	US-4,650,188	03/17/87	Schroeder	
	45	US-4,681,482	07/21/87	Arciszewski et al.	
	46	US-4,727,697	03/01/88	Vaux	
	47	US-4,749,302	06/07/88	DeClute	
	48	US-4,766,020	08/23/88	Ellingson, Jr.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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		Application Number	10/562,613
		Filing Date	12/22/05
		First Named Inventor	Forster, Cheryl
		Art Unit	3635
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 3 of 6	Attorney Docket Number	21216.PROV.PCT.US	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
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	49	US-4,807,412	02/28/89	Frederiksen	
	50	US-4,826,351	05/02/89	Haberhauer et al.	
	51	US-4,860,510	08/29/89	Kotler	
	52	US-4,877,672	10/31/89	Shreiner	
	53	US-4,917,532	04/17/90	Haberhauer et al.	
	54	US-4,930,286	06/05/90	Kotler	
	55	US-4,948,116	08/14/90	Vaux	
	56	US-4,964,751	10/23/90	Rope et al.	
	57	US-4,973,505	11/27/90	Bielous	
	58	US-5,157,804	10/27/92	Williams	
	59	US-5,190,799	03/02/93	Ellingson, III	
	60	US-5,195,288	03/23/93	Penczak	
	61	US-5,215,802	006/01/93	Kaars Sijpesteijn	
	62	US-5,253,464	10/19/93	Nilsen	
	63	US-5,228,253	07/20/93	Wattelez	
	64	US-5,234,738	08/10/93	Wolf	
	65	US-5,323,575	06/28/94	Yeh	
	66	US-5,333,423	08/02/94	Propst	
	67	US-5,364,204	11/15/94	MacLeod	
	68	US-5,379,557	01/10/95	Kotter	
	69	US-5,387,842	02/07/95	Roth et al.	
	70	US-5,403,453	04/04/95	Roth et al.	
	71	US-5,403,637	04/04/95	Pickard et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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		First Named Inventor	Forster, Cheryl
		Art Unit	3635
Examiner Name			
Sheet 4 of 6	Attorney Docket Number	21216.PROV.PCT.US	

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	72	US-5,414,324	05/09/95	Roth et al.	
	73	US-5,456,972	10/10/95	Roth et al.	
	74	US-5,462,771	10/31/95	Motoki et al.	
	75	US-5,466,424	11/14/95	Kusano et al.	
	76	US-5,451,132	09/17/85	Long	
	77	US-5,502,148	03/26/96	Hentschel et al.	
	78	US-5,509,244	04/23/96	Bentzon	
	79	US-5,518,799	05/21/96	Finestone et al.	
	80	US-5,526,619	06/18/96	Vagedes	
	81	US-5,527,128	06/18/96	Rope et al.	
	82	US-5,542,221	08/06/96	Streit et al.	
	83	US-5,567,490	10/22/96	Papazian et al.	
	84	US-5,573,715	11/12/96	Adams et al.	
	85	US-5,628,160	05/13/97	Kung	
	86	US-5,634,309	06/03/97	Polen	
	87	US-5,679,385	10/21/97	Adams et al.	
	88	US-5,693,390	12/02/97	Inagaki et al.	
	89	US-5,695,064	12/09/97	Huang et al.	
	90	US-5,713,806	02/03/98	Teitgen et al.	
	91	US-5,758,467	06/02/98	Snear et al.	
	92	US-5,761,867	06/09/98	Carling	
	93	US-5,787,654	08/04/98	Drost	
	94	US-5,803,973	09/08/98	Szczyrbowski et al.	
	95	US-5,816,965	10/06/98	Kotler	
	96	US-5,819,491	10/13/98	Davis	
	97	US-5,833,386	11/10/98	Rosan et al.	
	98	US-5,865,007	02/02/99	Bowman et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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		Examiner Name	
Sheet 5 of 6	Attorney Docket Number	21216.PROV.PCT.US	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	99	US-5,904,021	05/18/99	Fisher	
	100	US-5,907,934	06/01/99	Austin	
	101	US-5,910,401	06/08/99	Anderson et al.	
	102	US-5,950,378	09/14/99	Council et al.	
	103	US-5,992,106	11/30/99	Carling et al.	
	104	US-6,032,428	03/07/00	Rosan et al.	
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	111	US-2002/0071927	06/13/02	Kessler et al.	
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	113	US-2005/0202208	09/15/05	Kelly	
	114	US-2,082,563	06/01/37	Bauer	
	115	US-3,438,312	04/1969	Becker et al.	
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	120	US-5,871,823	02/16/99	Anders et al.	
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	122	US-6,128,881	10/10/00	Bue et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/562,613	
			Filing Date	12/22/05	
			First Named Inventor	Forster, Cheryl	
			Art Unit		
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	6	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	21216.PROV.PCT.US

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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